

LISTING OF CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Claim 1. (Currently Amended): A terminal control apparatus for controlling a terminal device that performs a specific process, said terminal control apparatus comprising:

communication means for performing communication between the terminal device and the terminal control apparatus; and

control means for controlling the terminal device, by using a terminal control function that accords with a system condition of the terminal device and personal user data peculiar to a particular user and to a particular user terminal of that user different from the terminal device so that the user can use the terminal device as if the terminal device ~~were~~ was in a system condition of the particular user terminal, the control means communicating with the terminal control apparatus through the communication means.

Claim 2. (Previously Presented): The terminal control apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the control means selects an optimal one of plural available terminal control functions for the terminal device, and performs the optimal terminal control function selected, thereby to control the terminal device.

Claim 3. (Previously Presented): The terminal control apparatus according to claim 2,

wherein the control means comprises selection means for selecting the optimal terminal control function in accordance with terminal information that represents terminal device type and terminal device capabilities, and function-performing means for performing the optimal terminal control function selected by the selection means.

Claim 4. (Previously Presented): The terminal control apparatus according to claim 3, wherein the function-performing means comprises function control means for controlling various function units of the terminal device, and the function control means controls the functions corresponding to the various function units in accordance with terminal device capability data contained in the terminal information.

Claim 5. (Previously Presented): The terminal control apparatus according to claim 1, wherein information is received from and transmitted to the terminal device through a terminal control system that operates regardless of what type of terminal device is present.

Claims 6-8 (Canceled)

Claim 9. (Currently Amended): ~~A~~ The terminal device having various function units control apparatus according to claim 1, said terminal device comprising: communication means for performing communication between the terminal device and a terminal control apparatus; and wherein the terminal device includes various function units and the control means includes

means for transmitting terminal information to the terminal control apparatus indicating what type of terminal device is communicating with the terminal control apparatus and capabilities of the terminal device communicating with the terminal control apparatus, the terminal control apparatus selecting the terminal device control ~~functions~~ function based on the indication of terminal device type and capabilities and providing the selected terminal device control ~~functions~~ function to the control means for controlling the function units to perform specific processes in accordance with the selected terminal device control ~~functions~~ function.

Claim 10. (Currently Amended): The terminal device according to claim 9, wherein the control means comprises information-storing means for storing the terminal information, information-transmitting means for acquiring the terminal information from the information-storing means and transmitting the acquired terminal information to the terminal control apparatus, and function-performing means for causing the function units to perform the specific processes.

Claims 11-20 (Canceled)

Claim 21 (New): A method of controlling a terminal device with a terminal control apparatus, said method comprising steps of:

establishing communications between the terminal control apparatus and the terminal device over a communications path; and

controlling the terminal device over the established communication path using a terminal control function that accords with a system condition of the terminal device and personal user data peculiar to a particular user and to a particular user terminal of that user different from the terminal device so that the user can use the terminal device as if the terminal device was in a system condition of the particular user terminal.

Claim 22. (New): The method of controlling a terminal device with a terminal control apparatus according to claim 21, wherein the controlling step includes a sub-step of selecting an optimal one of plural available terminal control functions for the terminal device, and performing the optimal terminal control function selected to thereby control the terminal device.

Claim 23. (New): The method of controlling a terminal device with a terminal control apparatus according to claim 22, wherein the sub-step of selecting the optimal terminal control function is done in accordance with terminal information that includes terminal device type data and terminal device capabilities data.

Claim 24. (New): The method of controlling a terminal device with a terminal control apparatus according to claim 23, wherein the performing of the optimal function selected includes controlling various function units of the terminal device in accordance with the terminal device capabilities data included in the terminal information.

Claim 25. (New): The method of controlling a terminal device with a terminal control apparatus according to claim 21, wherein information is received from and transmitted to the terminal device through a terminal control system that operates regardless of what type of terminal device is present.

Claim 26. (New): The method of controlling a terminal device with a terminal control apparatus according to claim 21, wherein the terminal device includes various function units and the controlling step includes transmitting terminal information to the terminal control apparatus indicating what type of terminal device is communicating with the terminal control apparatus and capabilities of the terminal device communicating with the terminal control apparatus, selecting the terminal device control function based on the indication of terminal device type and capabilities, and providing the selected terminal device control function so as to control the function units to perform specific processes in accordance therewith.

Claim 27. (New): The method of controlling a terminal device with a terminal control apparatus according to claim 21, wherein the controlling step includes a sub-step of storing the terminal information, a sub-step of acquiring the terminal information from storage, a sub-step of transmitting the acquired terminal information to the terminal control apparatus, and a sub-step of causing the function units to perform the specific processes.